IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (currently amended) A system for establishing a level of security in a personal computer having a memory and a stored operating system, the system comprising:

a variable security profile generated automatically when the system is turned on , said variable security profile specifying:

a variable number of unsuccessful power-on password attempts permitted based upon at least one other factor chosen from time of day[[,]] and day of week; and, a security level of authorization of the user; and

allowing or denying use of the personal computer to the user based on the security profile.

2.   (original) A system for providing security in a personal computer including the elements of claim 1 wherein the security profile includes a log of the access attempts for the personal computer and the results of each attempt.

3.   (previously presented) A system of the type described in claim 2 wherein the variable security profile can be altered to a less secure state only by a system owner through the use of a password different than the password of the user.

4.   (previously presented) A system of the type described in claim 3 for improving security of a personal computer wherein the variable security profile can be altered to a more secure state by a normal user.

5.   (previously presented) A system for providing computer security including the elements set forth in claim 4 where the variable security profile includes a plurality of binary indicators have a more secure state and a less secure state, and a normal user of the computer system may change at least one of the binary indicators from a less secure state to a more secure state.

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6.   (original) A system for providing computer security including the elements set forth in claim 5 wherein a user with a security password may change at least one of the binary indicators from a more secure state to a less secure state.

7.   (currently amended) A method for providing improved security in a personal computer having an operating system and a security profile stored in memory, the steps of the method comprising:

automatically generating a variable security profile with indications of greater or lesser security when the personal computer is turned on, wherein the variable security profile specifies:

a variable number of unsuccessful power-on password attempts permitted based upon at least one other factor chosen from time of day[[,]] and day of week; and,

a security level of authorization of the user;

storing the variable security profile in the personal computer;

using the variable security profile to determine what access, if any, a normal user will be permitted to have to the computer system; and

allowing the normal user to change the variable security profile from a level of lesser security to a level of greater security but denying the normal user permission to change the variable security profile from a level of greater security to a level of lesser security.

8.   . (previously presented) A method for providing security in a personal computer including the steps of claim 7 and further including the step of allowing a privileged user with a security password to change the variable security profile from a level of greater security to a level of lesser security.

9.   (previously presented) A method of providing security in a personal computer including the steps of claim 8 and further including the steps of updating the variable security profile in response to a security risk.

10.   (previously presented) A method of providing security in a personal computer including the steps of claim 9 and further including the step of responding to an attempt to open a cover of

the personal computer and indicating the security risk associated with the attempt to open the cover in the variable security profile.

11.   (previously canceled)